

Serial No.: 10/049,366

Amendment Dated: March 31, 2006

Reply to Office Action of: November 1, 2005 and Advisory Action of: February 23, 2006

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned patent application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A biosensor that is made of a single layer or plural layers of a porous material, said biosensor having a reagent holding part ~~including a marker reagent holding part~~ which holds a reagent for ~~marking analyzing~~ an analyte in a liquid specimen, said biosensor analyzing target components in the liquid specimen by utilizing chromatography, said biosensor comprising:

a carrier for carrying a cell shrinkage reagent having the ability of making cell components shrink on at least a part of an area of said carrier that ranges from a specimen addition part to which the liquid specimen is added to a reagent holding part thereof; and

~~a reaction layer chromatographically downstream of said carrier on which a reaction between the analyte in the liquid specimen and a marker reagent eluted from the marker reagent holding part is carried out, permitting analysis of the analyte in the liquid specimen, said biosensor enabling; and wherein the cell components in the liquid specimen are shrunk by the cell shrinkage reagent, and the shrunk cell components are developed to permeate together with the liquid specimen toward into said reaction layer that is provided chromatographically downstream in a mixed state for analysis to occur.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the liquid specimen is whole blood.

3. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the liquid specimen is a solution including bacteria.

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4. (Original) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is inorganic salt.

5. (Original) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is amino acid.

6. (Original) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is saccharide.

7. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the carrier that carries the cell shrinkage reagent is dried naturally or dried by air-drying.

8. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the carrier that carries the cell shrinkage reagent is dried by freeze-drying.

9. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the carrier that carries the cell shrinkage reagent is dried by heat drying.

10. (Original) The biosensor of Claim 2 wherein the biosensor is a one-step immunochromatographic test strip.

11. (Original) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the biosensor is a dry analytical element.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) A blood component analytical method which employs a biosensor that is made of a single layer or plural layers of a porous material, said biosensor having a reagent holding part ~~including a marker reagent holding part~~ which holds a reagent for ~~marking~~ analyzing an analyte in a liquid specimen, and said biosensor analyzing target components in the liquid specimen by utilizing chromatography, wherein said method comprising the steps of:

carrying a cell shrinkage reagent having the ability of making cell components shrink ~~is carried~~ on at least a part of an area of said biosensor that ranges from a specimen addition part to which the liquid specimen is added to the reagent holding part,

providing a reaction layer in which the reaction of the analyte in the liquid specimen and the reagent which is dissolved from the reagent holding part is carried out,

dissolving the cell shrinkage reagent ~~is dissolved~~ from the area carrying the cell shrinkage reagent by the blood specimen added to the specimen addition part infiltrating into the area carrying the cell shrinkage reagent,

chromatographically permeating the blood components ~~are chromatographically developed~~ in a state where the cell components included in the blood specimen which are shrunk by the dissolved cell shrinkage reagent are mixed with the liquid specimen, and

marking the analyte in the liquid specimen which is chromatographically ~~developed permeated~~ ~~is marked~~ with the reagent which has been held in the ~~marker~~ reagent holding part, ~~and wherein~~ the shrunk cell components are ~~developed permeated~~ together with the liquid specimen toward [[a]] said reaction layer that is provided chromatographically downstream, ~~thereby to analyze the components in the liquid specimen and the shrunk cell components and the liquid specimen are permeated into the reaction layer in a state where each of the shrunk cell components and the liquid specimen are mixed, and the analysis of the analyte in the liquid specimen is performed in said reaction layer.~~

24. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23 wherein a blood specimen to be added is whole blood.

25. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is inorganic salt.

26. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is amino acid.

27. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23 wherein the cell shrinkage reagent is saccharide.

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28. (Canceled).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

31. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23  
wherein the concentration of the cell shrinkage reagent is 0.1 ~ 5.0M.

32. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23  
wherein the biosensor is a one-step immunochromatographic test strip.

33. (Original) The blood component analytical method of Claim 23  
wherein the biosensor is a dry analytical element.

34. (Previously Presented) The biosensor of Claim 1 wherein the  
concentration of the cell shrinkage reagent is 0.1 ~ 5.0M.